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**UPR of the Republic of Moldova - Statement of Japan**

**Mr. Kansuke NAGAOKA**

**Minister, The Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva**

**4 November 2016**

Thank you, Mr. President,

 Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Moldova to this session.

 Japan welcomes the drafting of the National Programme for Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities for years 2017-2022. Japan expects Moldova to continue its efforts to protect and promote the human rights of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities.

 We express our concern at the widespread corruption at various levels in the country. Japan is also concerned by the potentially considerable implications for human rights caused by failure to ensure the independence of the judiciary, as in the case of high court judges who were prosecuted based on their own rulings. Japan **recommends** that Moldova carry out necessary reforms to strengthen the rule of law to prevent political interference in the justice system and to tackle corruption at all levels.

 We welcome the decreasing numbers of allegations of torture resulting from enhancement of the legislative frameworks to prohibit torture. Nonetheless, we are deeply concerned by continued reports of torture and inhuman treatment in detention facilities and psychiatry institutions. Japan **recommends** that Moldova strengthen its measures to prevent torture and address the impunity of such acts.

 Japan welcomes Moldova’s signing of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in 2007. We are aware that the procedures for its ratification are at a standstill, and we would like to ask if there is any particular obstacle to proceeding with ratification.

I thank you Mr. President.